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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

CASE NO.: AD6944USNA GEORGE HENRY HOFMANN

GROUP ART UNIT: 1773 APPLICATION NO.: 10/683827

EXAMINER: VIVIAN CHEN FILED: OCTOBER 10, 2003

FOR: CO-EXTRUDABLE MULTI-LAYER POLYMER

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir.

By Office Action dated November 30, 2005, the above-referenced application has been made subject to a restriction requirement. The Examiner has taken the position that restriction should be drawn between three groups of claims, specifically:

- Group I, including claims 1 to 18, which are drawn to a multilayer film classified in Class 428, subclass 480+;
- Group II, including claims 19 and 20, which are drawn to a method of making the multilayer film of the invention by an extrusion process that is classified in Class 264, subclass 173.11+; and
- Group II, including claims 19 and 20, which are drawn to a method of making the multilayer film of the invention by a lamination process that is classified in Class 156, subclass 297+.

Applicant hereby elects the claims of Group I for immediate examination. This election is made with traverse, on the grounds that examining all the claims in the present application can be accomplished without imposing a serious burden on the Examiner. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (M.P.E.P.) at § 803. All of the claims

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include the multilayer polymer of claim 1 as a specifically recited element. Therefore, a search of the art pertaining to multilayer polymers is necessary to examine the claims of Group I, and should also be sufficient to examine the claims of Groups II and III. Thus, examining all of the claims together will not present a serious burden.

In the event that the restriction requirement is maintained in this application and the nonelected process claims are withdrawn from consideration, Applicant requests treatment of the nonelected process claims as set forth in Official Gazette Notice published at \_\_\_\_\_ Off. Gaz. Pat. Office \_\_\_\_\_ (March 26, 1996). Upon a determination that a product claim is allowable, Applicants request rejoinder of nonelected process claims and examination of such claims on the merits in the above-referenced application.

Should any fee be required in connection with the present response, the Examiner is authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 04-1928 (E.I. du Pont de Nemours and Company).

Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. In closing, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at (302) 992-3219 to conduct any business that may advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIGH. EVANS

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

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Dated: December 16, 2005